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THE GENERATIONS OF WORMS.*—Our readers are already familiar with the strange alternations of generation observed in many of the lower intestinal worms. Like successions of forms differing remarkably from the parent, probably occur even in the most highly organized annelids. In the present Journal Dr. Malmgren, known by his elaborate works on the Annelids of the Northern and Arctic Seas, cites what he supposes to be another case, referring the species of "Heteronereis" (which had been considered by earlier observers as a good genus, and may be found swimming on the surface of the ocean, as we have observed it on the coast of Labrador), to certain species of the genus Nereis, which live in the mud or swim at the bottom. The actual connection has not been yet traced, but the author is strongly of the opinion that it will be found that the Nereids are the parents of the Heteronereis, and also of the species of Iphinereis, another genus allied to the former.

FLORIDA AND THE SOUTH.†—Travellers and naturalists in Florida will find in this little book a reliable guide to its hunting grounds and sanitary retreats, by one already well known as a writer on the history of Florida. The traveller should also take with him the articles on the shell-mounds of Florida, by Prof. Wyman, published in our second volume, and those of Mr. Stearns, which are now appearing in the NATURALIST.

ANNALS OF BEE CULTURE.‡—We should judge that this annual was a very timely production. The articles, mostly written by the Editor, are such as must interest and instruct bee-keepers, and we gladly hail every publication which has for its aim the improvement of the art and science of bee-keeping. The Editor proposes to issue another annual early in 1870.

NATURAL HISTORY MISCELLANY.

BOTANY.

TENDENCY OF FLORAL ORGANS TO EXCHANGE OFFICES. I have before me a curious instance of the tendency which floral organs have to exchange offices. It is a staminate spike of corn well developed, and of normal growth for some five inches from its insertion on the stem, but bearing on its apex a well defined little ear of grain, as regular in structure as those which were born in their accustomed place. I do not know how common this may be, but I never before chanced to see it.—C. J. S.

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* Siebold and Kolliker's Journal of Scientific Zoology, 1869.

† A Guide-book of Florida and the South, for Tourists, Invalids, and Emigrants; with a map of the St. John River. By D. G. Brenton, M. D. Philadelphia, 1869. 12mo, pp. 136. Penn. Publishing Co. $1.00.

‡ Annals of Bee Culture for 1869. By D. L. Adair, Editor. Louisville, Ky. 8vo, pp. 57.

HERBARIUM OF THE LATE DR. WALKER-ARNOTT. — The herbarium belonging to the late Dr. Walker-Arnott has, since his death, been acquired by the Glasgow University. Included in this is his magnificent collection of Diatomaceæ, which is contained in three large cabinets, and consists of fully ten thousand specimens, all mounted upon glass slides, ready for examination by means of the microscope. The specimens put up in tubes, from which slides can be prepared, will most likely be acquired by Dr. Eulenstein, the well known German diatomist, who will thus be enabled to push forward, it is to be hoped, the new edition of Pritchard's Infusoria, upon which he has been for some time engaged. The herbarium is a very large one, being contained in twenty cabinets, each of which holds at least four thousand specimens. The botanical library goes with the herbarium, and thus will be stored in a safe resting-place, the results of the labor of fifty years in the life of this eminent botanist. — A. M. EDWARDS.

NEW LOCALITY OF ASPIDIUM ACULEATUM (L.) SW. This fern, though widely distributed over the globe, is rare in the United States, being confined to a few mountains and high valleys in New England and New York. It has been collected in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, near the summit of Mt. Willoughby, and in the Notch at the north-eastern base of Mt. Mansfield, Vermont—and among the Adirondack mountains, N. Y. To these localities we may now add "Stony Clove," Catskill Mountains, N. Y., — where the writer found it in August of this year, growing abundantly, under conditions very similar to those of Mt. Mansfield Notch. This locality is one hundred and forty miles farther south than any previously known in our country. — JOHN H. REDFIELD, *Phila.*

ZOÖLOGY.

A REMARKABLE ECHINODERM. — At the meeting of the Scandinavian Naturalists at Christiania in 1868, Professor Lovén laid before the Zoölogical section the figures and description of a very remarkable Echinoderm from the Torres Straits (off Cape York), termed *Hyponome Sarsi.* It forms, in a new and very unexpected manner, a link between the palæozoic and the recent animal life. It is, strange to say, most nearly allied to Cystidea, especially to Agelacrinus, and will, no doubt, when its anatomy shall be known, give us a full clue to the comprehension of this enigmatic zoölogical type. The animal (which appears not to have lived fastened to the bottom of the sea) resembles a star-fish, with fine short and thick, but dichotomously branching arms; it had no stem. Five ambulacral furrows are present, giving off branches to the branches of the arms, and farther to several small club-like swellings of the skin, covering the superior, or ventral surface; but only these terminal or distal parts of the ambulacral furrows are open; in the rest of their course towards the centre of the disk they are covered up or converted into